IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims in this application, reflects all changes currently being made to the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and all earlier listings of the claims:

Claim 1 (previously presented): A method of creating a document suitable for hard copy reproduction, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving information from at least one electronic source document, the information including a plurality of referential links establishing corresponding referential paths between components of the information;

(b) defining a physical structure of the document suitable for hard copy reproduction and sufficient to reproduce the information;

(c) defining a plurality of document links associated with the physical structure and corresponding to the referential links;

(d) assigning a user interpretable functional link to each document link, wherein each functional link forms a traversable physical path in the document between components of the information; and

(e) arranging a number of the functional links by assigning plural ones of the document links to at least an individual one of the functional links.

Claim 2 (previously presented): A method according to claim 1, wherein the physical structure comprises at least one single printable page and the functional links comprise at least one indicium printable onto a single page, and step (e) comprises merging

plural ones of the document links to form a single indicium associated with a component on the page.

Claim 3 (previously presented): A method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the physical structure comprises plural printable pages and the functional links comprise at least one cut-out tab formed in at least one of the pages, and step (e) comprises assigning plural ones of the document links to a single one of the at least one cut-out tab.

Claim 4 (previously presented): A method according to claim 3, wherein at least one cut-out tab is formed as part of a nest of correspondingly located tabs associated with plural ones of the pages.

Claim 5 (previously presented): A method according to claim 4, further comprising the step of retaining structure definitions of the document in a template for formatting at least one subsequent document in a corresponding fashion.

Claim 6 (previously presented): A method according to claim 4 or 5, further comprising the step of defining a presentational style to the document and applying the presentational style to the functional links to distinguish the functional links from the components.

Claim 7 (previously presented): A method according to claim 6, further comprising the step of retaining the presentational style of the document in a template for formatting at least one subsequent document with the presentational style.

Claim 8 (previously presented): A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of defining content specific document links and incorporating corresponding functional links into the document.

Claim 9 (previously presented): A method according to claim 8, wherein the content specific document links are user defined.

Claim 10 (previously presented): A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of associating a predetermined stylistic layout with the arranged functional links so as to vary a hard-copy reproduction of the document.

Claim 11 (previously presented): A method according to claim 10, wherein the predetermined stylistic layout implements a formation of cut-out tabs as at least some of the arranged functional links.

Claim 12 (previously presented): A method according to claim 1, wherein step (e) comprises grouping the document links according to predetermined criteria associated with the document links, each group having associated therewith at least one corresponding arranged functional link.

Claim 13 (previously presented): A method according claim 1 or 12, wherein step (e) comprises the sub-steps of:

(ea) importing the information into the physical structure to form the document; and

(eb) applying the arranged links to the document.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A method according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of the functional links comprise corresponding cut-out tabs linking different pages of the document, and step (e) comprises the sub-steps of:

(ec) identifying those of the document links that either [[(I)]] (i) start or (ii) end on respective common pages of the document;

(ed) for each common page, grouping together corresponding document links identified at step (ec); and

(ee) providing a cut-out tab functional link corresponding to each group of document links.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A method according to claim 14, wherein substep (ed) further comprises limiting each group of document links to those that either [[(I)]] (i) end on different ones of the pages or (ii) start on different ones of the pages, and substep (ee) comprises providing a set of nested cut-out tab functional links, such that each member of the set corresponds to one document link of a corresponding group.

Claim 16 (previously presented): A method according to claim 15, wherein the groups are formed based upon a determinable relationship between corresponding components of the information.

Claim 17 (previously presented): An authoring system for creating a linear document that includes non-linear referential links, said system including:

means for specifying a linear document structure and hyperlinks of a hypermedia source document;

means for associating the hyperlinks with physical links able to be formed in pages of the linear document;

means for modelling each physical link using a one-dimensional vector reproducible as a traversable physical path in the linear document; and

means for arranging an assignment of the physical links to one or more of the hyperlinks.

Claim 18 (previously presented): An authoring system for creating a linear document that includes non-linear referential links, said system comprising:

means for assessing hyperlinks within a source hypermedia document to which a linear document structure is to be applied;

means for associating the hyperlinks with physical links able to be formed in pages of the linear document;

means for modelling each physical link using a one-dimensional vector reproducible as a traversable physical path in the linear document; and

means for arranging an assignment of the physical links to one or more of the hyperlinks.

Claim 19 (previously presented): A system for creating a linear document that includes non-linear referential links, said system comprising:

means for assessing hyperlinks within a source hypermedia document to which a linear document structure is to be applied;

means for associating the hyperlinks with physical links able to be formed in pages of the linear document;

means for modelling each physical link using a one-dimensional vector reproducible as a traversable physical path in the linear document;

means for arranging an assignment of the physical links to one or more of the hyperlinks;

means for applying the linear document structure and the arranged physical links to the hypermedia document to produce the linear document; and

means for reproducing the linear document.

Claim 20 (previously presented): A computer program product embodying a computer-readable program for implementing a method for creating a document suitable for hard copy reproduction, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

(a) receiving information from at least one electronic source document, the information including a plurality of referential links establishing corresponding referential paths between components of the information;

(b) defining a physical structure of the document suitable for hard copy reproduction and sufficient to reproduce the information;

(c) defining a plurality of document links associated with the physical structure and corresponding to the referential links;

(d) assigning a user interpretable functional link to each document link, wherein each functional link forms a traversable physical path in the document between components of the information; and

(e) arranging a number of the functional links by assigning plural ones of the document links to at least an individual one of the functional links.

Claim 21 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 20, wherein the physical structure comprises at least one single printable page and the functional links comprise at least one indicium printable onto a single page, and step (e) comprises merging plural ones of the document links to form a single indicium associated with a component on the page.

Claim 22 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 20, wherein the physical structure comprises plural printable pages and the functional links comprise at least one cut-out tab formed in at least one of the pages, and step (e) comprises assigning plural ones of the document links to a single one of the at least one cut-out tab.

Claim 23 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 22, wherein at least one cut-out tab is formed as part of a nest of correspondingly located tabs associated with plural ones of the pages.

Claim 24 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 23, wherein the method further comprises the step of retaining structure definitions of the document in a template for formatting at least one subsequent document in a corresponding fashion.

Claim 25 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 23, wherein the method further comprises the step of defining a presentational style to the document and applying the presentational style to the functional links to distinguish the functional links from the components.

Claim 26 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 25, wherein the method further comprises the step of retaining the presentational style of the document in a template for formatting at least one subsequent document with the presentational style.

Claim 27 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 20, wherein the method further comprises the step of defining content specific document links and incorporating corresponding functional links into the document.

Claim 28 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 27, wherein the content specific document links are user defined.

Claim 29 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 20, further comprising the step of associating a predetermined stylistic layout with the arranged functional links so as to vary a hard-copy reproduction of the document.

Claim 30 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 29, wherein the predetermined stylistic layout implements a formation of cut-out tabs as at least some of the arranged functional links.

Claim 31 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 20, wherein step (e) comprises grouping the document links according to predetermined criteria associated with the document links, each group having associated therewith at least one corresponding arranged functional link.

Claim 32 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 20, wherein step (e) comprises the sub-steps of:

(ea) importing the information into the physical structure to form the document; and

(eb) applying the arranged links to the document.

Claim 33 (currently amended): A computer program product according to claim 20, wherein a plurality of the functional links comprises corresponding cut-out tabs linking different pages of the document, and step (e) comprises the sub-steps of:

(ec) identifying those of the document links that either [[(I)]] (i) start or (ii) end on respective common pages of the document;

(ed) for each common page, grouping together corresponding document links identified at step (ec); and

(ee) providing a cut-out tab functional link corresponding to each group of document links.

Claim 34 (currently amended): A computer program product according to claim 33, wherein step (ed) further comprises limiting each group of document links to those that either [[(I)]] (i) end on different ones of the pages or (ii) start on different ones of the

pages, and step (ee) comprises providing a set of nested cut-out tab functional links, such that each member of the set corresponds to one document link of a corresponding group.

Claim 35 (previously presented): A computer program product according to claim 34, wherein the groups are formed based upon a determinable relationship between corresponding components of the information.

Claim 36 (previously presented): A system for creating a document suitable for hard copy reproduction, said system comprising:

first means for receiving information from at least one electronic source document, the information including a plurality of referential links establishing corresponding referential paths between components of the information;

second means for defining a physical structure of the document suitable for hard copy reproduction and sufficient to reproduce the information;

third means for defining a plurality of document links associated with the physical structure and corresponding to the referential links;

fourth means for assigning a user interpretable functional link to each document link, wherein each functional link forms a traversable physical path in the document between components of the information; and

fifth means for arranging a number of the functional links by assigning plural ones of the document links to at least an individual one of the functional links.

Claim 37 (previously presented): A system according to claim 36, wherein the physical structure comprises at least one single printable page and the functional links

comprise at least one indicium printable onto a single page, and said fifth means comprises means for merging plural ones of the document links to form a single indicium associated with a component on the page.

Claim 38 (previously presented): A system according to claim 36, wherein the physical structure comprises plural printable pages and the functional links comprise at least one cut-out tab formed in at least one of the pages, and said fifth means comprises means for assigning plural ones of the document links to a single one of the at least one cut-out tab.

Claim 39 (previously presented): A system according to claim 38, wherein at least one cut-out tab is formed as part of a nest of correspondingly located tabs associated with plural ones of the pages.

Claim 40 (previously presented): A system according to claim 39, further comprising means for retaining structure definitions of the document in a template for formatting at least one subsequent document in a corresponding fashion.

Claim 41 (previously presented): A system according to claim 39, further comprising means for defining a presentational style to the document and for applying the presentational style to the functional links to distinguish the functional links from the components.

Claim 42 (previously presented): A system according to claim 41, further comprising means for retaining the presentational style of the document in a template for formatting at least one subsequent document with the presentational style.

Claim 43 (previously presented): A system according to claim 36, further comprising means for defining content specific document links and incorporating corresponding functional links into the document.

Claim 44 (previously presented): A system according to claim 43, wherein the content specific document links are user defined.

Claim 45 (previously presented): A system according to claim 36, further comprising means for associating a predetermined stylistic layout with the arranged functional links so as to vary a hard-copy reproduction of the document.

Claim 46 (previously presented): A system according to claim 45, wherein the predetermined stylistic layout implements a formation of cut-out tabs as at least some of the arranged functional links.

Claim 47 (previously presented): A system according to claim 46, wherein said fifth means comprises means for grouping the document links according to predetermined criteria associated with the document links, each group having associated therewith at least one corresponding arranged functional link.

Claim 48 (previously presented): A system according to claim 36, wherein said fifth means comprises:

means for importing the information into the physical structure to form the document; and

means for applying the arranged links to the document.

Claim 49 (previously presented): A system according to claim 36, wherein a plurality of the functional links comprises corresponding cut-out tabs linking different pages of the document, and said fifth means comprises:

means for identifying those of the document links that either (I) start or (ii) end on respective common pages of the document;

means for grouping together, for each common page, corresponding document links identified by the means for identifying; and

means for providing a cut-out tab functional link corresponding to each group of document links.

Claim 50 (currently amended): A system according to claim 49, further comprising means for limiting each group of document links to those that either [[(I)]] (i) end on different ones of the pages or (ii) start on different ones of the pages, and means for providing a set of nested cut-out tab functional links, such that each member of the set corresponds to one document link of a corresponding group.

Claim 51 (previously presented): A system according to claim 50, wherein the groups are formed based upon a determinable relationship between corresponding components of the information.

Claims 52 and 53 (canceled)

Claim 54 (previously presented): A hard copy document comprising:

information received from at least one electronic source document, the source document including a plurality of non-linear referential links establishing corresponding referential paths between components of the information; and

a user interpretable functional link with a part thereof corresponding to plural ones of the non-linear referential links, wherein the user interpretable functional link is part of a plurality of user interpretable functional links formed in said hard copy document and provides user traversable physical paths spanning plural pages of said hard copy document between corresponding components of the information.